

IN HONOR OF BISHOP H.H. BROOKINS—CONCLUDES A LIFE OF SERVICE

HON. JESSE L. JACKSON, JR.

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 31, 2012

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, the African Methodist Episcopal Church's Bishop Hamel Hartford Brookins—widely known as Bishop H.H. Brookins—went to be with his heavenly father on Tuesday, May 22. He died in Los Angeles at the age of 86.

I first became acquainted with Bishop H.H. Brookins as the Board Chairman of my father's organization, Operation PUSH. He was a great preacher with a commitment to civil rights and economic and political justice on a national and international scale. He served in a variety of AME church districts in the U.S. and Africa throughout his distinguished religious career, and was known as an activist, a visionary and a great church leader committed to justice for all. He was an early supporter and played an important role in mobilizing the religious community in my father's two presidential campaigns.

In 2002 former President Bill Clinton joined a host of religious luminaries, elected officials and celebrities in a tribute to Bishop Brookins, the son of Mississippi sharecroppers who rose to become a Los Angeles and international champion of black political empowerment. The former President praised Brookins for his civil rights legacy and reminisced about the days when the clergyman ministered in a country church in Arkansas while he was the Governor.

Bishop Brookins became active politically in the 1950s when, as a clergyman in Topeka, Kansas he helped to implement the 1954 Brown desegregation decision and plan ordered by the U.S. Supreme Court. In 1965 he worked to quell the Watts riots. He was an architect of Tom Bradley's campaigns for Los Angeles mayor and, while working in Africa, was ousted from Rhodesia because of his work on behalf of the Zimbabwe liberation movement. In 1981 Zimbabwe invited him back for its first presidential inauguration.

Bishop Brookins was born in Yazoo City, Mississippi. He received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Ohio's Wilberforce University and a Bachelor of Divinity degree from Payne Seminary. Prior to his election as a bishop in the African Methodist Episcopal Church, Bishop Brookins served as the pastor of the First AME Church of Los Angeles, California leading the congregation through the building of a multi-million dollar cathedral at its present location on Harvard Boulevard in Los Angeles.

Bishop Brookins is survived by his wife, the Rev. Rosalynn Kyle Brookins, pastor of the Walker Temple AME Church in Los Angeles and their son, Wellington Hartford Brookins and two stepchildren, Steven Hartford Brookins and the Rev. Francine A. Brookins. His family and numerous friends were at his bedside when he died.

IN RECOGNITION OF SAKS HIGH SCHOOL LADY WILDCATS SOFTBALL TEAM FOR WINNING THE 3A STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 31, 2012

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I would like to request the House's attention to pay recognition to the Saks High School Lady Wildcat's softball team in Saks, Alabama, who recently won the Alabama High School Athletic Association Class 3A State Championship.

Pitcher Taylor West along with her teammates was able to pull off a perfect game to clinch this year's championship title. This is the first State Championship for the Lady Wildcats. They are lead by Head Coach Mike Tucker.

All of us across Calhoun County and East Alabama are deeply proud of these talented young Alabamians. I'd like to congratulate the team, their coaches and Saks High School on this outstanding achievement.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. STEVEN M. PALAZZO

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 31, 2012

Mr. PALAZZO. Mr. Speaker, on May 30, 2012 I was unavoidably delayed due to a mechanical problem during travel causing me to miss rollcall vote No. 296 on H.R. 915, the Jamie Zapata Border Enforcement Security Task Force Act. Had I been present for this vote, I would have voted "aye."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROBERT L. TURNER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 31, 2012

Mr. TURNER of New York. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 294, I was away from the floor due to a memorial service for first responders at the World Trade Center Memorial in New York. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

TRIBUTE TO KEVIN DAVIS

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 31, 2012

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a young man who did not wear a uniform, but did lay down his life on behalf of this great Nation. Kevin Davis, of Houston, Texas lost his life on Christmas Day, 2010 at Kandahar Airfield in Afghanistan when he was struck by shrapnel from indirect fire. Kevin's chest and abdomen were hit and he later succumbed to his wounds.

Kevin worked as a contracting Warehouse man for DynCorp International, supporting our

troops. He was serving as part of the Army's Logistic Civil Augmentation Program in the southern region of Afghanistan. This civil augmentation program is the Army component of a military effort to engage U.S. companies in providing a broad range of support services for U.S. and allied forces during combat, peacekeeping, humanitarian, and training operations.

These services include supply operations, such as the delivery of food, water, fuel, spare parts, and other items. They provide field operations, such as dining and laundry facilities, housing, sanitation, waste management, postal services, and other operations; including engineering and construction, support to communication networks (IT), transportation and cargo services, and facilities maintenance and repair.

Civilians like Kevin Davis provide critical support for the men and women defending our liberty.

After Kevin graduated from Kashmere High School with honors in 1990, he received a certification in Paint and Auto Repairs from Houston Community College. He worked with the Metropolitan Transit Authority as a bus operator and auto body mechanic for 16 years. After working for the Metropolitan Transit Authority, Kevin worked as a civilian contractor providing support for our Armed Forces.

Kevin was also an active and devoted member of Riverwood Missionary Baptist Church. He is survived by his mother, Francis Murray, his sister, Taniesha Davis, and a daughter, Ashley Milburn. Kevin, like the many civilian contractors who provide support to our military, served an important function in the Global War on Terror and his sacrifice for America will never be forgotten.

FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION REFORM ACT OF 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 30, 2012

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, this bill is the result of hard work by our committee. I especially want to thank Chairmen UPTON and PITTS and Ranking Members WAXMAN and PALLONE and I am proud that our committee is setting an example for bipartisan compromise and productive governing.

Contained in the FDA Reform Act is the GAIN Act, a bill introduced by Congressman GINGREY and myself, which is aimed at incentivizing the development of new antibiotics that will fight the serious and life threatening infections that mankind will face in the coming years.

The GAIN Act provisions of this bill represent a careful bipartisan balance that appropriately protects patient safety and responsibly offers incentives to innovative drug companies seeking the cures to our world's most deadly bacterial pathogens such as extensively drug resistant tuberculosis, MRSA, and others that we are currently ill-equipped to treat. Currently, we are unable to manage many significant public health threats posed by these pathogens.

While a widespread public health threat is in our future, some people in this country are